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## A SAFE CHOICE

This is a hard editorial for me to write as it concerns something private and personal. It concerns a decision that my girlfriend and myself made a while ago. We decided to enter into a serious monogamous relationship. One that involved a lot of trust on each others' part.

Let's face it. People will care for each other and have sex relations at some point. The problem is that in today's world there exists the possibility that by doing so they may kill both themselves and others. Chastity may work for some people but won't for everyone. If someone is passing on the virus it can have far-reaching consequences. And it's not as unlikely as it seems. Unprotected sex is unsafe unless wearing a condom. The only other alternative is that you are monogamous and your partner is too.

In order to further my relationship, I undertook a confidential AIDS test. Not because I thought that I had AIDS but because I was entering a long-term relationship with someone I care about. She also took the test. This is the third time that I have taken such a test. All have turned out to be negative for HIV. I thanked the Creator once again when I received my clean bill of health.

It is extremely hard to take a test even if you figure that you don't have anything wrong with you. You have to go to a special CLSC. The one I went to is located beside Guy Metro (St. Mathieu exit).

First they counsel you on the dangers of contracting AIDS, how people can catch it, the various things you can do to extend your life because there is no cure for it, how to

deal with it if you have HIV and have you fill out a confidential questionnaire on your sexual and lifestyle practices. Then you go and have a blood sample taken. You are given your number. Mine was 345 PLO. Without the card containing the number you do not receive an answer. This is totally confidential; no one even knows your name. Even if the counselor does turn up in the same area as you, he will pretend he doesn't know you. This happened to me outside a theater.

The hardest part is waiting the month to get the results back. The last moments are spent wondering because no matter how low-risk you are there are chances. Blood carries it and people have contacted it that way. Can you imagine having to tell friends, parents, family and your loved one that you are a carrier?

It's sort of scary and there is the only truth that comes through, survival.

How will you survive it all? The shame, the knowledge of your own death, others whom you have affected giving them a death warrant also and having to deal with that for the remainder of your life. It's a slow, prolonged death. One in which being a part of creating a child is no longer possible.

Using a condom or getting tested is no longer a moral issue; it is a survival issue. It comes down to two things.

Confidential HIV testing and condoms should be made easily available for all Crees. If the Cree Nation falls behind the times then it may end up truly a dying nation. That is the reality of life today.

by Will Nicholls

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### COVER PHOTO:

Doodle from the AGA  
Bert Moar Jr.

Cover design: Katerina Cizek





Johnny Cooper, Space alien or CBC reporter?

The corporation met in OJ two weeks ago. Being full and equal shareholders, we went to find out what was happening and what the big fuss would be this time. Would it be Great Whale? Mining in Cree territory? Hidden millions? We could only guess as we hadn't been supplied with the proceeding's agenda beforehand. I love the drama and comedy of these events. I can sit through the tedium a supposed orator brings to the circle to experience it.

We arrive, for once, on time and fairly alert. A large red and white tent which reminded some people of a circus had been erected close to Lake Opemiska. There it stood surrounded by the green, brown, earthy visage of Ouje-Bougoumou looking like some wayward alien ship. We stop short of entering and to drop our gear by the door.

A participant walks out and approaches. "I'll show you to headquarters" he says in untranslatable Cree.

"Have you heard?" he asks once out of sight. Don't tell me, I think, and ask instead, "What?"

"Where've you been?" he said, smiling to himself. "You've been living in the south too long," he continued matter of factly.

"There's a war on. Which isn't a bad thing in itself. But the problem is most people don't know it and the rest don't care."

"Oh, that," I said. "I read about that in the Bible." He opened his desk drawer and

pulled out a document and a glass container he said was for medicinal purposes. He threw me the glass and laid out the document on his bare desk.

"The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, yes, NASA is up here. Now what would an aeronautics and space agency be doing up here?" he asked almost to himself. "I guess they didn't find anything interesting in space. What do we have they don't?"

Breaking out of his reverie he asked hopefully, "What have you learned?" "That can wait," we answer and head back to the tent.

The assembly was just getting underway. "Do a head count," said my partner telepathically. 150, 170 tops. "IQ level?" he asked. "The same," he chuckled. "Get visuals on silver," he ordered. We wandered physically, telepathically. Studying, gathering, listening, memorizing.

"What are they doing up here?" one of the gathered asked. "The dams? mining?" ... He paused... "UFO's?" My partner's eyes met mine. "No!" he exclaimed in his head. Ignorant laughter erupted around the Earthling round table. Ernie smiled that smile he usually smiled when conquering a world. Our secret was safe. Our plan for super-friggin-mega-intergalactic domination is on track. Today liyiuuschii, tomorrow the world!

by Ndiamon

*the Nation*

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## CHISASIBI HAS 2h14 IF LG-2 BURSTS

For the first time since the dams were built, Hydro-Quebec has released information about what would happen if LG-2 burst open and the water spilled out.

Also for the first time, HQ has released a report on safety and security problems in the La Grande hydro network. Six of the 20 pages in the Hydro report are blanked out.

The problems in the report include "anomalies" in water pressure at LG-1 and LG-2. HQ engineers are at a loss to explain or fix the "anomalies." The problem is so serious a provincial committee of engineers was created to investigate.

Also, holes are appearing in dykes throughout Hydro-Quebec's dam network in the North, and Hydro doesn't know why. In the last two years, HQ added on a quarter-million tonnes of rock to strengthen the dykes.

All this information and more was released to *The Nation* after a request under the Access to Information Act.

Probably the most interesting item we received is a large map that shows HQ's scenario of a "catastrophic failure" at LG-2. The information on the map is not all clear, but the map does show that a tidal wave would sweep down the river and slam into Chisasibi 2 hours and 14 minutes later. Chisasibi and Fort George Island would be completely under water.

By the time the wall of water reaches the bay, it would be 20-25 kilometres wide and 11 to 13 metres high. The water would travel at nearly 50 km/h down the river.

The tidal wave would cut off the highway at around Kilometre 15 about 1h50 after the dam breaks. The highway would presumably be the only escape route for most residents.

Is there a plan for what to

do if the dams fail? Until now, Chisasibi has never had anything from Hydro-Quebec to go on. Much of the information we received from Hydro-Quebec is vague and unclear. We were unable to receive any clarifications as of press time.

Hydro did a study in 1989 on what would happen if LG-2 should break, but this study was not sent to *The Nation*. We are filing another Access request to obtain this and other information. No study has ever been done on how a dam failure would affect Eastmain, but such a study is planned for 1998, Hydro informed us in a letter.

Hydro's report also said the motors that open the gates of the Opinaca spillway do not work. In other words, the spillway can't be opened if the reservoir overflows. Inadequate spillways were one of the main problems that occurred in the Saguenay floods last year. The Eastmain spillway has been opened only one time in a test in the early 1980s, as far as anyone knows.

Officials at the Grand Council of the Crees were excited about the new information released by Hydro. "There is absolutely no flow of information between the Crees and Hydro-Quebec," said Alan Penn, an advisor to the Grand Council. "This conversation is the first time anyone has ever discussed with me any information related to the performance of the dykes."

"What's the assurance Hydro has the necessary control over the dams," asked Penn. "From the point of view of Chisasibi, they have a right to know much more information than they know now."

He said the La Grande dams should be put under independent review by a Dam Security Agency, as recommended by a panel that looked into the floods in the Saguenay.

by Alex Roslin

## UPS AND DOWNS AT THE CREE ENTITIES

A slew of annual reports has been released by the Cree entities. Here are some of the highlights.

### CREE CO.:

Sales at the Cree Construction and Development Company Ltd. slumped dramatically last year to less than half the previous year's level.

But the company still somehow managed to make a \$700,000 net profit in 1996-97, according to Cree Co.'s latest annual report.

Over at **Servinor Food Wholesaler Inc.**, the exact opposite story unfolded. Sales ballooned by 75 per cent, from \$24.2 to \$40.1 million. Unfortunately, the company wound up with a net loss of \$2.2 million.

Overall, Cree Co. as a whole lost \$720,000 last fiscal year due to Servinor's performance, which the report blames on "growing pains."

The report does not say whether **Valpiro Inc.** or **Air Creebec (1994) Inc.** had a profit or loss. A message from Air Creebec president Albert Diamond says the company "did not reach our projected profit for the year."

For the year, Cree Co. earned \$86.4 million, down from \$89.3 million in 1995. Long-term debt was \$23.5 million.

### CREE SCHOOL BOARD:

For the first time, Crees outnumber non-Natives as teachers at the elementary school level in the communities.

Cree teachers are 64 per cent of the total, compared to only 42 per cent in 1995-96.

In professional jobs at the school board, Crees have also moved ahead dramatically, from 37 per cent of positions to 52 per cent in 1996-97.

The gains are a result of the Cree Replacement Policy.

Crees now outnumber non-Natives in most other categories: manager, support staff and pre-K & K teachers. But non-Natives still make up 82 per cent of secondary teachers and 64 per cent of school managers.

Finally, the report also includes a message from Robert Weistche honouring the late Annie Whiskeychan.

"Annie Whiskeychan stands as an example for all of us to follow. We honour her and give special recognition to her memory."



## Info confidential

### Letter to *The Nation*:

Subject: Article published in *The Nation* on July 18, "HQ won't release studies."

An article that appeared on page 5 of the abovementioned issue includes a comment from Brian Craik on the levels of the reservoirs operated by Hydro-Quebec. In particular, you state, "Craik said the secrecy also makes it impossible for Crees to know whether HQ is respecting the maximum water levels as set out in the JBNQA."

We wish to state specifically that the utility regularly provides information on water levels of some reservoirs pursuant to various agreements entered into with the Crees. However, this information is confidential and strictly aimed at the users. It was most recently provided on July 21, 1997.

It is therefore inaccurate to print that it is impossible for the Crees to know whether Hydro-Quebec is respecting its undertakings as regards this subject. We would ask you to publish a corrected account of the situation.

**Michel Blais, Manager,  
Aboriginal Relations, Hydro-Quebec**

*Editor's Note: Based on its public statements, it was not known whether Hydro-Quebec would provide information on water levels in the reservoirs. Although some information has been released to the GCCQ, Hydro still refuses to release any information to the public or *The Nation*. *The Nation* has appealed to the Access to Information Commission to obtain information on the water levels from HQ.*

## "Dr. Truth"

### Letter to *The Nation*:

I believe that *The Nation* is worth being printed, worth being distributed, worth being sold too only if Native people write their own stories and comments. Bring more information, more news, more comments, more stories and more actuality and truth such as... bringing up some negative aspects going on in the communities, the junk food—piles of it that the children eat and their side effects on health. Social and cultural aspects to be discussed and internal politics? Everlasting meetings, months, years to take a decision. Who decides in the communities? What about the dangers of the communities to be ruled under a dic-

tatorial council vs. government? Let's stop putting everyone on a pedestal and praise them for what they did a long time ago. The time to wake up is now and get ready to wake ourselves up, our children, our people. Get ready, prepare ourselves for what's coming ahead. And please never mind printing ugly, if not disgusting, pictures such as Bouchard's in your last issue. Also the one before about Nellie (too many pages), anyone can fall asleep...

I believe that *The Nation* is worth being printed, worth being sold and distributed only if you show us more beauty, truth and elaboration and "please" sell it to everyone. What is \$2.00 when you want to know the truth? Doesn't everyone or practically everyone give their kids over two bucks a week just to buy junk? People won't complain if they have to chip in for something worth it.

The only thing is "make it worth it" 'cause the next time I see an ugly face such as Bouchard's on the cover of *The Nation*, I won't bother reading it. I'll throw it as far as I can and turn around and buy myself some Roloids.

**Dr. Truth, Whapmagoostui  
P.S. "Not Doctor Ruth"**

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*The Nation* is pleased to announce the promotion of Johanne Grenon as our new Sales Director. Johanne, who has worked with us since 1994, will now be responsible for the *Nation* Sales team. We wish Johanne the best of luck in her new position and we look forward to many more years together. Congratulations!

*the Nation*





## AIR CREEBEC WOOS CHISASIBI-MTL MARKET BUT HEALTH BOARD LUKE-WARM ABOUT NEW SCHEDULE

Buy Cree. It's a message most people agree with, but do they always put their money where their mouth is? Air Creebec is about to test people's commitment to "buying Cree" by introducing a direct flight from Montreal to Chisasibi in September.

The flight will be faster and cheaper than the Montreal-LG-2 flight now offered by Inter-Canadian Airlines. But the question remains: Will travellers switch over?

Already, the Cree health and social services board is saying it wants to keep its options open and isn't hurrying to switch over from Canadian. The fight is on for the Health Board's \$2-2.5 million in yearly traffic out of Chisasibi, nearly all of which now goes on Canadian Airlines.

At the moment, Air Creebec offers no direct flight and its passengers must endure the ups and downs of the "milk run," which stops in the other coastal communities before it heads off to Montreal.

Residents of Chisasibi, which is the biggest Cree community, seem to prefer Canadian. Even though Canadian flies out of LG-2, 100 kilometres away from Chisasibi, it's cheaper and the direct flight is faster.

"I'd rather take Canadian," said one local Cree. "I would take Air Creebec if it was a direct flight and the price was right."

And that's just what Air Creebec will offer. Starting in September, a speedy, leather-seated, 19-seat Beechcraft 1900D will be flying the Montreal-Chisasibi route with stop-overs in Chibougamau and LG-2.

Total flying time: just over 3h30. Cost of a two-way ticket (bought in advance): \$499.12.

On paper, Air Creebec offers the better package. Cana-

dian's flying time between Montreal and LG-2 is also 3h30, but the drive between Chisasibi and LG-2 adds an extra hour to the trip. Canadian charges \$595.76 for a ticket bought a week in advance.

Still, Lawrence Potter, head of finances for the health board, is cautious about switching over to Air Creebec. "We won't commit to Air Creebec, not on a pledged basis," he said. "Fortunately, they're both out there. It gives us that latitude."

Potter prefers Canadian because it uses a bigger plane, a 42-passenger ATR 42. This means less people get bumped off due to overbooking than on Air Creebec's smaller plane, he said. Another concern: The Cree airline's smaller plane can't take patients on a stretcher.

Potter said the health board books close to 40 staff and patients a week on the Chisasibi-Montreal route and another 40 weekly on the Chisasibi-Val d'Or. Almost all presently fly Canadian.

Air Creebec president Albert Diamond expressed frustration with the lack of response from the health board in years gone by. "Everybody will say we have to support Cree business. But a lot of it is lip-service. It does get discouraging," he said.

Diamond said a bigger plane can be easily put on if the need and demand are there. He noted that the health board's costs are increased by the need for a daily transport service to LG-2.

Last March, James Bobbish, executive director of the health board, was mandated by the board of directors to study Air Creebec's offer of a new schedule. The board is waiting for his findings.

by Alex Roslin

## O.J. TO BE IN EXPO 2000

Ouje-Bougoumou has received yet another international honour. The community was informed on August 20 that it has been selected as an official project of the Universal World Exposition, EXPO 2000, to be held in Hannover, Germany from June 1 to Oct. 31, 2000.

The community was chosen to present an exhibition because the world's fair believes O.J. represents the fair's theme: "the balancing of humankind, nature and technology." O.J. has already won several awards from the United Nations and in Canada.

"This level of international recognition is truly humbling," commented Chief Abel Bosum. "And at the same time, it confirms what we have said over and over for many years, that if you give aboriginal people the resources to build their own futures according to their own philosophies, there takes place an enormous unleashing of creative energy which is positive not only for us but for the larger society as well. Aboriginal self-government is a win-win situation."

## EASTMAIN TO MEET MINERS

The most active mining company in Iiyuuuschi will be hearing from the Crees during a mining convention which is to be held in Rouyn Sept. 10-12.

Eastmain Chief Kenneth Gilpin and two tallymen whose land is being explored by Virginia Gold Mines will meet the company's president, Andre Beaumont, during the convention.

The convention is being sponsored by the Quebec government, which has given a shot in the arm to the mining industry with millions in subsidies to companies willing to explore the "Middle-North," Cree land.

The two tallymen are Robert Jimiken of Mistissini and Abel Moses of Eastmain. Moses came to Eastmain's local assembly and said there was a lot of mining activity on his land. He asked the council to help him find out what's going on. The meeting in Rouyn is the first result of the band's efforts.

"He (Beaumont) wouldn't tell us what his findings were, but agreed to sit down with us," said Gilpin.

"Depending on what our findings are

continued on page 9





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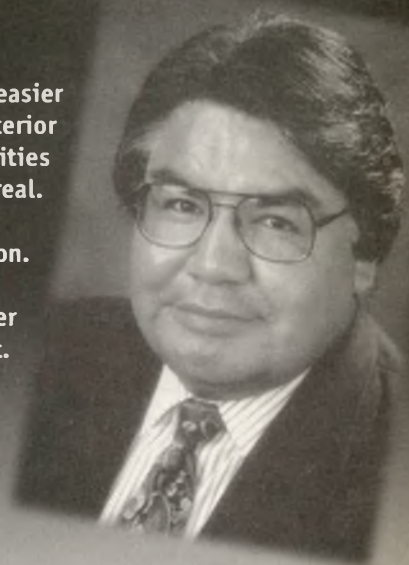
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continued from page 7

and their schedule of work, we're going to start negotiating with them on revenue sharing or going into a partnership."

Gilpin said tallyman Abel Moses's first concern is to secure as many jobs from the mining as possible for the young people of Eastmain.

## PROTEST CAMP AT VOISEY'S BAY

The Innu and Inuit of Labrador are staging a joint protest at the massive mining development at Voisey's Bay.

Inuit are arriving from Nain to set up a protest camp, and more than 250 Innu from Davis Inlet and Sheshatshiu are heading over to join them.

"Development at the site has gone far enough. Inco is now building a road and an airstrip without Innu and Inuit consent," said Katie Rich, president of the Innu Nation, which represents both Innu communities of Labrador. "Without our consent there will be no project."

Talks with the company broke down recently after Inco refused to halt construction work on the project. The Innu and Inuit want work stopped until agreement is reached on an environmental assessment and a deal on compensation.

The Innu and Inuit have tried many means to halt the company's construction plans, including an unsuccessful appeal to Newfoundland Supreme Court. An appeal of the Supreme Court decision will be heard soon, but the Innu believe the courts have already failed them.

"Each day they plow further ahead with the construction of the road, and by the time we will have our day in court, the road and the airstrip may be finished," said Rich.

The Innu leader hoped the protest will remain peaceful. "This is about standing our ground, not having a stand-off. The company has never asked for our permission to be here, or asked for our consent for the mine," Rich said.

"We have clearly outlined what our consent requires and it is up to them to respond to it. We have lived here for thousands of years and we plan to stay here for thousands more, but we don't want to be living in the mess they will make here by rushing ahead. By standing together with the Labrador Inuit we are saying to Inco and Brian Tobin (Newfoundland's premier) that we will not be bulldozed over on our own land."



## NASA DENIES ITS OWN EXISTENCE

Bizarre news from the "men in black" at NASA.

An official of the space agency has told *The Nation* that NASA has not sent any of its personnel to Whapmagoostui to study the "alleged" meteorite that created a new bay 10 miles north of the community.

Cree band officials in the community say four individuals claiming to be from NASA showed up in town a few weeks ago and headed off to inspect the new bay.

"I asked a number of people. No one here or anyone they deal with has any knowledge about anybody going up there," said Don Savage, an official with NASA's Space Science Division in Washington, D.C.

"We hadn't heard of any impacts in that area. If there had been it would have been widely reported by the Geological Society," he added.

As we speak, Canadian geological officials are examining records from military satellites to check if there is any record of a meteorite. According to one meteor expert, most meteorite impacts are in fact never detected by any seismic or satellite monitors.

Savage also denied knowing about any NASA facilities in Northern Quebec. A small, unmanned facility of undetermined nature with NASA logos emblazoned all over it has long puzzled the residents of

nearby Chisasibi.

"I don't know anything about that," Savage said. "I've asked a few people but nobody has told me anything definite."

A Hydro-Quebec internal newsletter has reported that the facility does indeed belong to NASA and is there to check "isostatic rebound," which is the rebound of the earth after the glaciers of the Ice Age melted.

## INQUIRY STARTS INTO INNU DEATHS

An inquiry into the mysterious deaths of two Innu men in 1977 is under way.

Quebec police said the Innu men, Moise Regis, 26, and Achille Vollant, 20, got drunk, fell into the Moisie River and drowned.

But families of the men in Maliotenam believe they were killed in a fight with two game wardens on the river.

The deaths occurred during a time of heated battles over the Innu right to fish on the river. A key witness will be Fernand Vachon, a game warden at the time who says the two men were killed.

This is the third inquiry since the men died in June 1977. A coroner said the deaths were accidental. But after a TV report suggested they died in a run-in with game wardens, the Quebec government asked police to investigate. The police upheld the coroner's view.

"We don't believe them," says Louise Vollant, Achille's sister. "I don't believe them at all."



# "Can I have two million? Nemwii!!"



PHOTOS BY NEIL DIAMOND

By Ernest Webb

Waskaganish Delegates, Bert Moar Jr. and David Erless confer with the Grand Chief

Ouje-Bougoumou. The blueberry bushes were straining from carrying the weight of their fruit. The Crees had convened for the 23rd Annual General Assembly of the GCC (EA) August 12-14. It was the 20th Annual for the CRA.

The opening prayer was conducted by Jimmy Mianscum, former chief of Ouje-Bougoumou. The first day was spent going through the formalities of adopting the minutes from last year's AGA and reviewing the agenda. The rest of the day was an overview of the issues and presentations from the National Corporations. Treasurer Matthew Swallow presented the financial figures from the CRA and GCC (EA). Following Matthew was Roderick Pachano and his presentation of the Board of Compensation annual report. Afterwards were some questions to the presenters.

Following these were general discussions. "Whenever we get together we always seem to only talk about money," "Will we have some tomorrow?" "We don't get our money's worth out of these AGA's. Some people leave here confused." Afterwards, Bill Namagoose gave the GCC (EA) annual report. During all that the pump truck came to pump up the Porta-letTM. Unfortunately the breeze was coming towards the tent. Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come said, "It was a stinky report" Laughter. The AGA adjourned for the day.

Notable absences: Abel Bosum, family illness. Billy Diamond, prior engagements.

Day two opened with Robert Weistche presenting the report of the Cree School Board. Comments and questions followed. "I am shy to answer when someone asks me if I can write syllabics. There has to be a review of the post-secondary policies. The CSB changes

the programs on the kids all the time. We need a Cree CEGEP. My sons went south and they needed a lot of money. We can't all go back to where we came from. We need to teach our children so they can work."

During all this someone mentioned that the theme of the AGA was "land and traditional issues... That's why I came, and we aren't there yet." The James Bay Cree Communications Society issued an activity report for the first time in a long time with Thomas Jolly, Susan Esau and myself. Following that was James Shecapio of the Cree Health Board with an introduction to Robert Harris and Elizabeth Robinson who are doing community tours to study public health.

Lunch.

A revised agenda was introduced... "We don't talk about Cree Co. or any of the local companies." Community reports followed. Chief William Mianscum raised the issue of the local economies, in particular Mistissini's, how a lot of the money goes out to the other communities. They stated they have a project to build a motel-restaurant. And that they brought in a resolution for the travel budget to be spent on Cree land. Included in the report was how the trappers are feeling squeezed from "developers."

Mianscum said, "We are trying to stop them but the agreement doesn't seem to have any teeth. They sneak on to Category 1 land. They wanted to set up a camp. We said no but they go to the government. We try to go to court but it doesn't help. While we are in court they still cut anyway and when court's adjourned all the cutting has been done."





**Roderick Pachano, Chairman of the Board**

After lunch Chief Matthew Mukash of Whapmagoostui presented his community's concerns along with Andrew Kawapit, whose land will be affected from the proposed Hydro-Quebec projects. They expressed their concerns about the planned river diversions. Another concern was the high cost of maintaining a house and the high cost of traveling to and from the trapline. Samson Shem joined in by saying, "What our chief is saying is true. He isn't holding out for more money."

Smally Petawabano said, "During the first phase of the projects Jean Chretien was the Indian Affairs Minister. I sat with him during talks and I said to him why can't you just stop it? He replied I'm just the minister, it is the prime minister that can stop it. If I was Prime minister I would give you everything you want. Now he is and he hasn't done anything for us yet."

Day three, Freddy Jolly presented his case concerning the Route du Nord. (We will have more in the next issue -Ed.) Eric House, with Irene House translating into Cree, submitted his mining research to the assembly. "In all there are 86 mining companies in Quebec. A lot of companies get money from the province to look for minerals on Native land," he said. "You can buy exploration permits in Chibougamau for \$75 per sq. km. and nobody can go in for five years. There are 1,000 claims in the Eastmain area. There are claims in the reservoirs. Big companies are offering our leaders big money to hire them as mining consultants. Nobody seems to be monitoring. If a mine starts, a town will be there. Then we will be the minority."

He then went on to the Grand Canal project where James Bay will see a dam go across the mouth from Cape Jones to the west coast of James Bay with the aim of diverting water down to the

states. His main question was: "Where do we stand?"

Grand Chief Coon Come then answered that a resolution will be worked on. He went on to elaborate that there is nothing the Crees can do in terms of exploration, but if the companies find something that would be another story. He said that Rankin Inlet was the test model for Crees. They had a mine on Catagory 2 land, but added that they haven't heard Rankin Inlet say that they didn't want the mine.

Paul Dixon then came on and spoke about his father's and his experiences with mining. He said, "A mine opened up near Chapais in 1957, and me and my father used to fish on the creeks near the mine. Now we can't even drink the water. It stinks. Our hands are being held while our land is being destroyed."

Albert Mianscum said, "I have listened to the Chisasibi and Whapmagoostui concerns. The mines and forestry are also destroying our land. The logger in my opinion is the biggest destroyer of land. I never saw the non-Natives back when I can remember. Back then everything was plentiful, rabbit, moose, everything. Then the first mine came in. I didn't see much destruction but eventually we wouldn't drink the water. The loggers came, then everything changed. Everything started dying off. We couldn't find food. It became scarce. We find fish with no eyes—we can't eat them. They also have some sort of burns. The Elder who gave me the land I'm on, it took him three years for him to pass it to me. He worked on me. When he had faith in me to take care of the land we went to Mistissini. I placed my hand on the Bible and swore I would take care of the land."

The Washaw Siibii Eeyou Association made the trip from Amos to plead their case. They are Crees with historic affiliations to Waskaganish and Waswanipi. Their traplines are in the southern regions of the Cree territory so they went to the Amos region to trade and eventually settled in Pikogan, La Sarre and Senneterre. Some of them were registered under the Pikogan Council but lost their registration with that council when they started receiving Cree Nation programs.

They said, "We hope a place will be set aside for our children to grow. Our youth have nowhere to go in the future. The students have no jobs in the summer. Sometimes they go to Ontario for jobs. There is nothing for them to do except alcohol and welfare. They quit school. Our kids are told to speak French or Algonquin. When I saw this that is when I resolved to fight for us."

Matthew Coon Come stated that \$100,000 had been pledged towards the Washaw Siibii Association.

James Shecapio and James Bobbish then presented the Cree Health Board's report. Bertie Wapachee then asked the Assembly for a support resolution of the youth resolutions passed at the Youth Assembly.

About 30 resolutions had been passed. (More in the next issue Ed.)

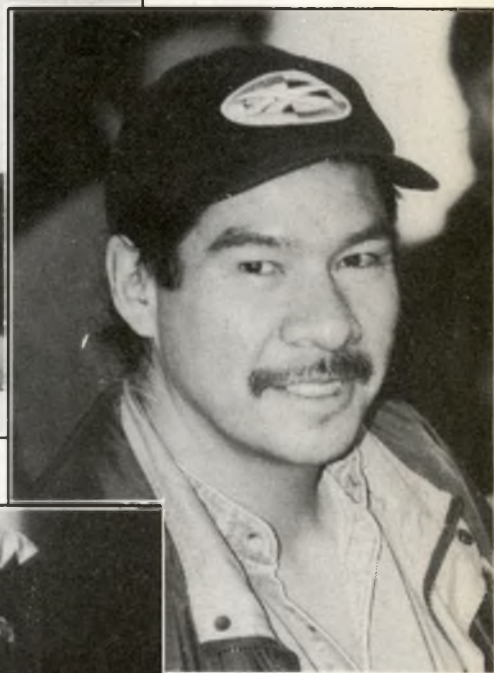
Sam Bosum, representative of Ouje-Bougoumou, offered his closing statements and apologized for the smell during the first day. "That's what happens when you have too many leaders around." He thanked everyone for coming and wished everyone a safe journey home. Vice-Grand Chief Violet Pachano offered her closing statements, with Grand Chief Matthew rounding off the closing statements and saying the closing prayer.

Assembly adjourned. The blueberries were good. Only time will tell if what was said in the assembly will bear fruit. 'Till next year in Chisasibi.





Eric House, Chisasibi



Whapmagoostui Chief, Matthew Mukash



Freddy Jolly, Tallyman



Robbie Dick of the Elders Council

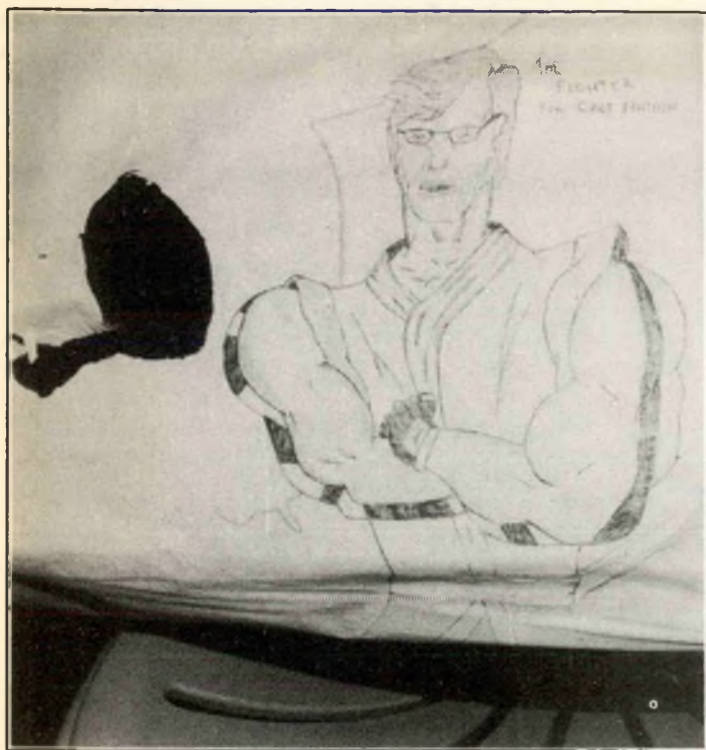


Wemindji Chief, Walter Hughboy

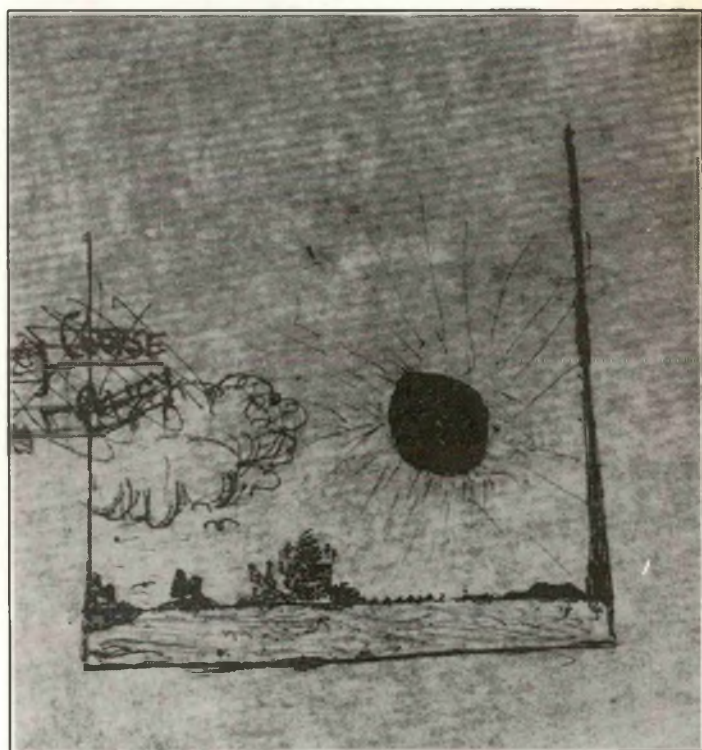


Maurice Kistabish of the Washaw Siibii Association after the Assembly

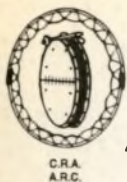




## Doodles of the AGA







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CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY

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## 3rd Job Posting

**OPEN POSITION: Coordinator of the Cree Human Resources Department**  
**LOCATION OF WORK: Montreal (1st year)**  
**COMPETITION NUMBER: CRA - 428**  
**CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT:**  
**18 month contract (possibility of renewal)**

The Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Estchee)/Cree Regional Authority is presently seeking a resourceful individual with strong leadership and supervisory skills. The Coordinator of the Cree Human Resources Development shall assist in the implementation of the "Agreement Respecting Human Resource Development for the Cree Eeyou Astchee". He/she will administer and monitor various programs designed to develop and support labour market resources in the Cree territory, seek additional sources of funding, and provide various employment services such as assistance to workers and to employers.

Reporting to the Director of Community Services, the Coordinator supervises the Department and oversees programs and services being delivered to the Cree communities.

He/she is responsible to ensure that all governmental reporting responsibilities are complied with and shall work closely with federal and provincial authorities, as well as Cree representatives and Cree entities, in order to achieve a coordinated approach to Cree Labour and Manpower programs.

### Employment Requirements:

- College degree in a relevant field (Administration, Management);
- Five (5) years of pertinent work experience;
- Excellent oral and written communication in English; *fluency in Cree is a requirement*;
- Willingness to live in a remote area and travel extensively.

Salary for the above position shall be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The GCCEE/CRA offers a benefit package which includes Group Insurance and Pension Plan.

*If you are interested and meet the requirements for this position, please forward your resume mentioning the competition number CRA-428 September 19, 1997.*

# LES MINES INMET

*The Trailus Project is a division of Inmet Mining Corporation, a Canadian mining company specializing in the exploration, development and mining of base and precious metal deposits at the international level.*

*The Trailus Project is an open pit mine located 175 km north of Chibougamau, accessible by the Route du Nord. Employees work a 4-3 schedule and are housed at a first-rate camp at the mine site.*

## The Position: Executive Secretary

The Executive Secretary performs a variety of administrative tasks for the General Manager as well as for the senior management team.

### Requirements:

- Completion of a two-year college program in secretarial science or a related field;
- Three to five years of experience as a secretary for a group of senior managers;
- In-depth knowledge of file management;
- Fluency in spoken and written English and French;
- Excellent grasp of word processing and spreadsheet software (Word, Powerpoint, Excel, Access, etc.);
- Discretion required.

### Primary responsibilities:

- Typing correspondence, reports, minutes and related documents using stenography, dictated or handwritten notes, using a computer, word processor or typewriter;
- Opening and distributing mail and other documents;
- Distributing and posting communications from management;
- Setting up and confirming appointments and meetings;
- Answering the telephone and transferring calls to the General Manager;
- Establishing and maintaining filing systems;
- Taking and writing-up minutes of meetings;
- Organizing travel schedules and making travel reservations;
- preparing routine correspondence and compiling data, statistics and other information;
- Executing all related tasks.

### Remuneration:

Inmet Mining Corporation offers competitive salaries and a complete benefits package. Inmet is an equal opportunity employer, and encourages and is committed to the hiring of Crees. We thank all applicants for their interest, but only candidates to be interviewed will be contacted.

Interested applicants should submit their resumes by September 15, 1997 to:

**Project Trailus**  
P.O. Box 8700  
Chibougamau (Quebec)  
G8P 3A9

To the attention of the Manager of Human Resources  
**RE: Executive Secretary**



## OUJE-BOUGOUMOU COMPUTER CAMP



Back row: Lance Cooper, Nellie Wapachee, Varley (Balish) Mianscum  
Front row: Rachel Etapp, Olivia Couchées



Back row: Peter Bosum, Joshua Bosum, Thomas Bosum  
Front row: Angel Mianscum, Joy Shecapio-Blacksmith, Jeremy Wapachee, Amy Mianscum.  
Missing: Naomi Bosum, Mikai Flageole, William Meilloux

When a frequent visitor to Ouje-Bougoumou was told that the community was holding a computer science camp, she exclaimed, "Wow, the first time I visited here, which was only a couple of years ago, the community didn't even have telephones, and now the kids are making their own web pages and communicating with people around the world!"

The latest successful project taken on by Ouje-Bougoumou is a science/computer camp. The camp, which ran for two weeks this summer, introduced 20 participants to fields of science such as geology, forestry, archaeology and computer science. This year's camp was designed as a pilot project intended to identify the conditions necessary to operate a summer-long camp in the future. Because of the short time frame it was decided to narrow the camp's focus and emphasize the use of computers in science.

David Denton of the Cree Regional Authority presented a demonstration on how the Crees use computers to map archaeological sites and keep track of traditional knowledge. The Ouje-Bougoumou Forestry Department was available to introduce the students to digital mapping, Geographical Information Systems and Global Positioning Systems.

Geology and mining issues were introduced through a visit to the Mining Museum in Chibougamau, and perhaps most importantly, Anna Bosum, Ouje-Bougoumou's Cultural Coordinator, talked to the kids about traditional Cree culture and designs which could help link their past, present and future.

The majority of the students' time was spent learning about computers and the Internet. The computer sessions were held at Petaapin Youth Centre and were taught by Peter Pronovost, a Mohawk computer expert and president of Kahnawake Computer Consulting. The students learned about the Internet, graphic art, how to use a digital camera and a scanner, and how to make web pages, which were then added to Ouje-Bougoumou's web site.

For many of these kids, some of whom never used a computer before, this was a serious challenge, but one which produced ex-

cellent results. The students were fascinated with the technology and were so anxious to work on their web pages that they even asked for extra classes in the evening.

The camp was a clear success. When the idea was first raised, there were the doubters, saying that the camp would never happen and making excuses not to get involved. However, there were others who believed not only in Ouje-Bougoumou's ability to run such a camp, but also in the importance of getting Cree youth more aware of the opportunities in science and particularly in using computer technology.

These supporters of the project included the Cree School Board, Industry Canada, the Secretariat aux affaires autochtones, Telebec, the Commission touristique de Chibougamau, David Denton of the CRA, and Mark Forsyth and Minnie Wapachee of Ouje-Bougoumou, each of whom generously donated money, time or equipment.

Bernard Perlman, Ouje-Bougoumou's Economic Development Officer, was encouraged by the results of this year's camp. "I was amazed at how much the kids learned and accomplished in only two weeks. The computer camp was such an obvious success and of such interest to the students that we are already making plans to have it run for the whole summer next year and to open it up to aboriginal and non-aboriginal kids from elsewhere," he said.

"I'm also hoping this year's success will make it easier for us to get more financial support next year. More funding would open the camp up to more kids. This year we had to turn away 20 kids who really wanted to come to the camp. Similarly, a longer camp would make it possible for us to provide more instruction in computer art and graphics and link it even more closely to Cree life and traditions."

The web pages of the Crees' newest web site developers can be seen at Ouje-Bougoumou's web site at the following Internet address: <http://www.ouje.ca/youth/Camp/camp.htm>

-by Nation staff



# Above the Rim

## Basketball Camp • 1997

RICHMOND QC. 1— The air in the gym was thick with sweat and heat. Basketballs pounded the gym floor. It was deafening.

*The Nation* had arrived in time to witness 50 Crees pulling the last stretch of an intensive week-long basketball bonanza in the heart of the Eastern Townships.

"We've been working really hard," gasped the event's organizer as he greeted us, "We've been pounding."

When Craig Dunn, former Chisasibi Phys. Ed. Teacher, had the idea for *Above the Rim*, a Cree-Non-Cree Basketball Camp in his home territory, one hour east of Montreal, he didn't think all the spots would be scooped up by Crees.

"We got calls from all over James Bay with players wanting to come," he said, and the

camp quickly became a mostly Cree event — with players from Chisasibi, Wemindji, Eastmain, Waskaganish and Mistissini.

The Mistissini group raised 7,000 dollars in only one month, said Marlene Matoush, who brought her whole family down for the week-long event. "Everyone really wanted to come" she said.

At the gym, players spent each morning at training stations, working on offensive movement, shooting, defensive, ball-

handling, passing, rebounding and fitness.

In the afternoons, Craig and his staff invited some of Quebec's top coaches to share their secrets about the game. David King, a former University all-star, was the favorite. "Sitting on the ground, he dribbled two inches off the ground with both hands, and then started doing sit-ups" said one enamored fan.

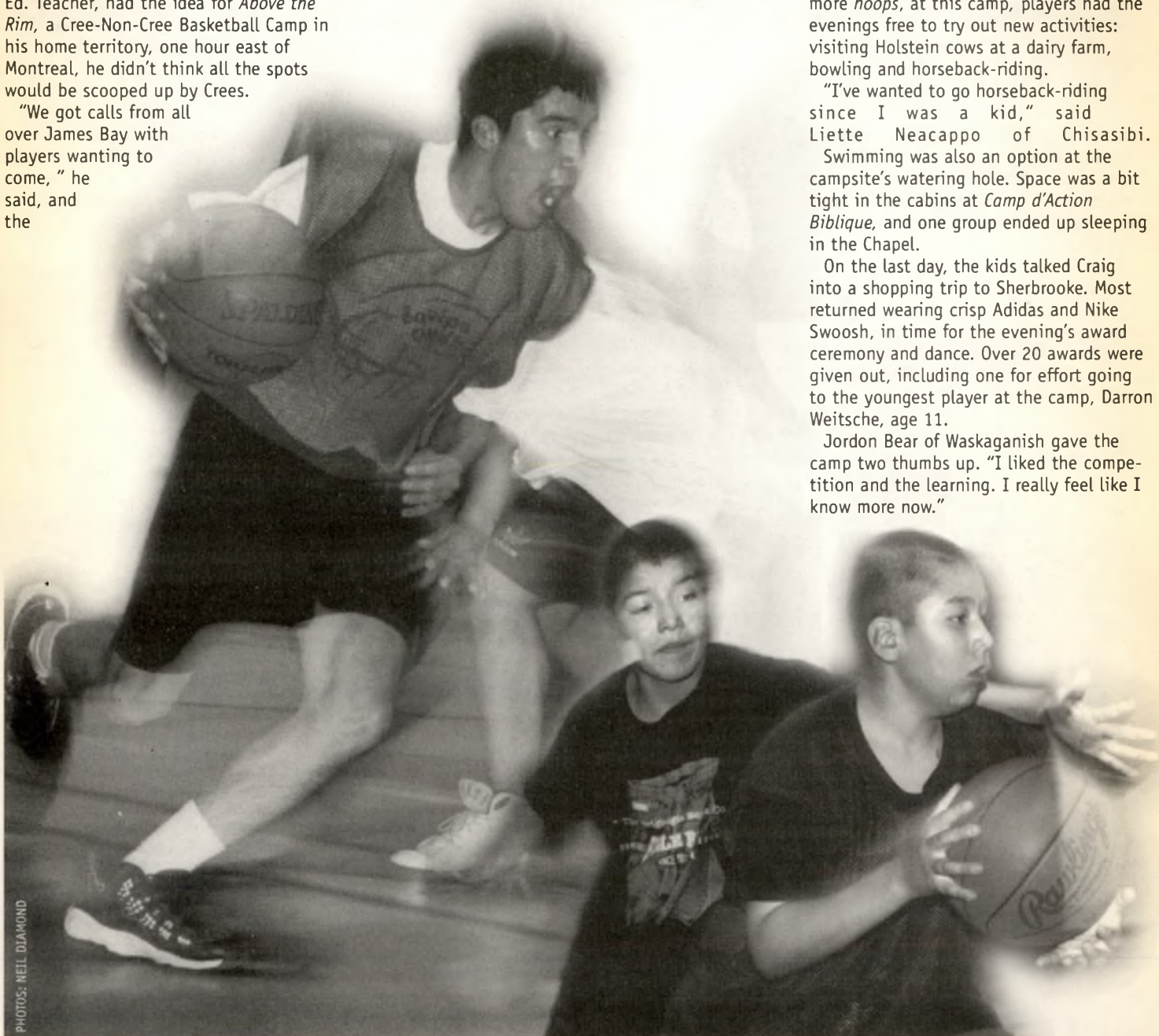
But unlike most basketball camps, where players return to the court after dinner for more *hoops*, at this camp, players had the evenings free to try out new activities: visiting Holstein cows at a dairy farm, bowling and horseback-riding.

"I've wanted to go horseback-riding since I was a kid," said Liette Neacappo of Chisasibi.

Swimming was also an option at the campsite's watering hole. Space was a bit tight in the cabins at *Camp d'Action Biblique*, and one group ended up sleeping in the Chapel.

On the last day, the kids talked Craig into a shopping trip to Sherbrooke. Most returned wearing crisp Adidas and Nike Swoosh, in time for the evening's award ceremony and dance. Over 20 awards were given out, including one for effort going to the youngest player at the camp, Darron Weitsche, age 11.

Jordon Bear of Waskaganish gave the camp two thumbs up. "I liked the competition and the learning. I really feel like I know more now."





# What was your favorite thing at *Above the Rim*?



"I learned a lot from David King: to focus on the basics and to take one thing at a time."  
— *George Loon, Mistissini*



"I liked the bowling. I got one strike."  
— *Gordon Asquabaneskum, Wemindji*



"My favorite thing was the three-on-three — I played with Gaston from Chisasibi and Michael from Wemindji."  
— *Archie Moar, Chisasibi*



"The Three on three was fun, it's much more competitive than a regular game. I also got to see my girlfriend from Mistissini. I love you, Roseanna."  
— *Timmy Mistcheesick, Wemindji*



"I liked our guest David King. I learned about ball handling."  
— *Elizabeth Shashaweskum, Wemindji*



"At invitationals, we only play on our team. Here, we get to play side by side with people from other communities."  
— *Liette Neacappo, Chisasibi*



"I liked playing basketball everyday, all week long."  
— *Wade Atsynia, Wemindji*





# THE PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN



1997 Annual General Assembly

Resolution No. 1997-17

Subject: Proposed diversion of Whapmagoostuk River

Whereas in the fall of 1994 the Government of Quebec indefinitely "shelved" the proposed Great Whale River Hydroelectric Development Project;

Whereas, recently, Hydro-Quebec made public its plans to divert the Whapmagoostuk (Great Whale River) and the Rupert River into its existing reservoirs at La Grande Complex;

Whereas Hydro-Quebec is presently studying this option as part of its plan to sell surplus power outside of Quebec;

Whereas it is a known fact that the said river diversion plan would totally submerge Epsikameesh (Lake Bienville), the headwaters of the Great Whale River, and disrupt the drinking water supply for the communities of Whapmagoostui and Kuujjuarapik;

Whereas Epsikameesh is a sacred place, a major calving grounds of the inland caribou, a sanctuary for

marine life, water fowl and other forms of wildlife;

Whereas the diversion of the Whapmagoostuk would have the same impact if James Bay II were to go ahead as planned;

Whereas the Eeyouch of Eeyou Estchee has, in previous General Assemblies, expressed its wish to protect the land, water and Wildlife resources, and to affirm its rights and total control over said resources;

Resolved:

That the 1997 Annual General Assembly does hereby give its full support to the Whapmagoostui First Nation in its opposition to the proposed diversion of the Whapmagoostuk (Great Whale River);

That the GCCQEA/CRA be and it is hereby mandated to ensure that all things useful and necessary are done to protect the traditional lands, water and their resources in Eeyou Estchee and give support to the Whapmagoostui First Nation including financial resources.

## Passed



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Grand Council of the Crees (of Quebec)  
Grand Conseil des Cris (du Québec)

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CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY  
ADMINISTRATION RÉGIONALE CRIE





# The Bear Necessities

By William Nicholls

Quebec's Environment and Wildlife Department announced that the Quebec is going to prohibit the possession and trade of bear gall bladders that are used in traditional Chinese medicine. This will start in 1998, according to Quebec's Minister of Environment and Wildlife, David Cliche. Cliche also said there will also be new kill limits. Trappers will be allowed only one or two bears per trapline and hunters will only be allowed to take one this year instead of two. All this is part of a new 1998-2002 bear management plan that Cliche unveiled in June.

The minister says the new bear management plan is a result of public consultation. Cliche, in a press release, says he has the support of numerous wildlife groups in Quebec. He also says he was delighted with the interest shown by hunters and trappers across Quebec.

It was less than a delighted interest, though, by the GCCQ. Before the full measures were announced the Crees responded through the Hunting, Fishing, Trapping Coordinating Committee (HFTCC) in May. Johnny Peters, the Chairperson of the HFTCC, sent a strongly worded letter to the Cliche. It said that Crees have the inherent right to sell all parts of the bear and that this prohibition couldn't apply to them as this right is guaranteed in the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.

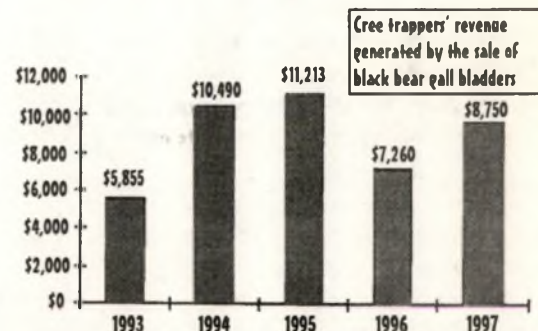
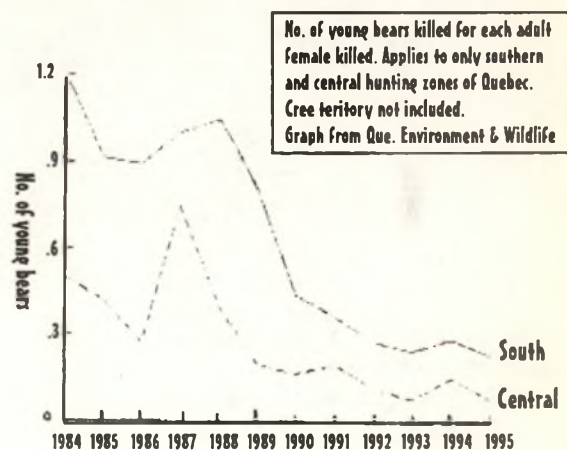
Cliche acknowledged that the Crees did indeed have this right but asked that the Crees follow the plan.


Peter's letter, though, had already said that the Crees had no objection to a Quebec ban as long as it does not apply to the Cree beneficiaries. It also stated that there was no conservation problem in the territory so there was no valid reason to attempt to supersede the Cree rights concerning black bears. It said the intention of the government to ban the sale of black bear gall bladders is unacceptable to the Cree.

The letter goes on to say that the sale of gall bladders only adds a small but much-needed amount of revenue to the trappers' income. The GCCQ points out that charts

of the Cree Trappers' Association show that the Cree haven't over-exploited the bears at all. In fact they show a declining revenue from bear gall bladder revenue for the Cree trappers and hunters as a whole. (See CTA graphs for revenue generated from the sales of all bear parts.) The GCCQ and the CTA feel that these charts show a balanced hunting practice by the Crees and if exploitation was taking place the numbers would be going up drastically.

Minister Cliche defended the province saying they are






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trying to upgrade their image. Quebec is currently seen as the world hub for illegal trade in bear gall bladders. He also said this could have consequences in developing resources including the fur trade. Quebec would be the last Canadian province to prohibit the sale of gall bladders. Cliche said he would be happy to discuss this matter at the next HFTCC meeting with the members.

Another official at Environment Quebec says the black bear population is in some danger. At present there are 60,000 black bears in Quebec. The ministry says they are sensitive to exploitation, and the sharp rise in hunting and trapping doesn't respect the annual productivity requirement of the bear population.

The data that convinced Cliche's ministry was taken almost exclusively from the southern and central hunting zones of Quebec. One of the figures that the department cites is that hunting and trapping has tripled in the past 10 years. Environment and Wildlife says that over 5,000 bears were harvested last year.

# THE BEAR FACTS AND NOTHING ELSE

The black bear, as many know from recent press, have been involved in two attacks this summer (Ontario and B.C.). In the western world bears are often seen as living teddy bears or vicious killers. In reality the bear is simply a powerful animal that is getting pushed into smaller and smaller habitats. This means they will come into contact more and more with humans while foraging for food.

Black bears, however, don't deserve the bad press they've been getting lately. Only 28 deaths in the past century have been recorded. That's an average of one every three years. By comparison for every death by a bear there are: 17 deaths from spiders, 25 from snakes, 67 from dogs, 150 from tornadoes, 180 from bees and wasps, 374 from lightning and 90,000 homicides (man killing man). Since there are visitors to the Cree territory, here are a few tips for safety.

### TIPS FOR THOSE WISHING TO AVOID BEARS:

Make noise while walking in the woods. It's safer to travel in groups than alone.

Your family pet, man's best friend, the dog, can bring bears right back to you when the dog returns from an investigation. Some people say to leave the dog on a leash just to be safe if there's a bear in the area.

If you see a bear but it's far away and doesn't see you, then turn around and go back or circle far around. Do not disturb.

If you see a bear that is close to you or it sees you, stay calm. Bear attacks are rare. It may approach or stand on its hind legs to get a better look at you. It is being curious. Be human, stand tall, wave your arms and speak in a loud and low voice. Do not run. Stand your ground or back away slowly and diagonally. If the bear starts to follow then stop.

If a bear charges remember that almost all charges are

bluff charges. Do not run. Not even Johnathan Bailey can outrun a bear. If you run you trigger an instinctive reaction to chase. Do not climb a tree unless it's next to you and you can get up at least 30 feet quickly. Stand your ground, wave your arms and speak in a loud and low voice. Bears have been known to come within a few feet of a person and veer off seemingly at the last second.

If a bear approaches your campsite, shoot it. If you don't have a gun, aggressively chase it away. Make noise with pots and pans, throw rocks and if needed hit the bear. Do not let the bear get any food.

If you have surprised a bear and are contacted or attacked, play dead. Struggling will encourage attack. Lie flat on your stomach. An alternative is to curl up in a ball with your hands laced behind your neck. Lie still and keep silent. Surprised bears usually stop attacking once you are no longer a threat (i.e. dead).

If you are stalked by a bear (it's approaching your campsite) or an attack is continuing long after you have stopped struggling, fight back! Predatory bears are often young bears that can be intimidated or chased away. Use a stick or your hands and feet if nothing else is available. Go for a poke in the eye if you can.

It's best to always have a gun for protection if you're going into the bush.

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# BETWEEN FRIENDS

This is the first article in a series devoted to us - women!

Sometimes, nobody knows you better than your best friend! Here are some ways to show your buddies how much you appreciate them!

Prepare a nice meal for your friend. Try a new recipe or just pig out - but not too often, because this could make you...

Join the gym or an exercise class together, and stick to your promise to do it! You'll both look and feel fabulous!

Buy her a ticket to her favorite band, a gift certificate to a great store she loves, etc. Things she would never get for herself.

Have a movie night at home: we recommend Stella, Joy Luck Club, Pretty Woman, The Tina Turner Story.

Buy a great book (or magazine) that you can both read and discuss later. We recommend any of the Chicken Soup for the Soul series - collections of true stories sent in by people from all walks of life - guaranteed to make you laugh, cry, contemplate and learn from.



## FOR YOUR HEALTH

Did you know:

1 Burger King Double Whopper = 53 grams of fat = 5300 grapes!

1/2 cup Peanut butter chocolate ice cream = 26 grams of fat = 37 cups of fresh pineapple!

Which would you rather fill up on?!

### Get moving!

Exercise is the best healer, both physical and mental. Aerobic activity, like walking, running, biking, dancing, gives your body what it craves most - oxygen. Oxygen is a vital ingredient for good health. We need it to live. Physical activity is a way to get the blood pumping and the oxygen coursing through our veins, and that's why we gain strength, energy and a sense of well-being after exercising. Getting enough oxygen will give you the energy you need to do what you've got to do. It will also give you the physical and emotional strength to overcome obstacles like illness, stress, anxiety, depression and fatigue. Getting your energy up and enough oxygen is essential for LIFE, so just move it!

### HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Emergency Stain Removers - Save that sweater!

Coffee: Blot with cold water, then apply a little dishwashing liquid and rinse. Follow with white vinegar and rinse.

Gum: Rub an ice cube across the gum to harden it. Then lift off (don't scrape) large pieces. To remove final traces, dab gently with a baby wipe.

Blood: Blot with cold water, then use a bit of detergent and rinse.

Lipstick: Emergency shortcut: Spray with hairspray and rub away!

If you have any suggestions or comments, please call, fax or write Deantha at the Nation.



## 7th Annual Volleyball Tournament

Mistissini • September 4-7, 1997

On behalf of the Mistissini Sports & Recreation Department, we would like to inform you that the 7th Annual Mistissini Volleyball Tournament will be held in Mistissini on September 4 - 7, 1997.

We are therefore inviting you, officially, to participate in this tournament. Registration forms must be completed, signed and returned with entry fees no later than August 29, 1997.

CATEGORIES	PRIZES	INSCRIPTION
Men's Volleyball (8 Teams)	\$3,000.00 - Champions \$1,500.00 - Finalists	\$500.00
Women's Volleyball (8 teams)	\$3,000.00 - Champions \$1,500.00 - Finalists	\$500.00

For more information or to enter your team, you may contact:

JEAN-BAPTISTE LOON

Recreation Coordinator

Phone: 418-923-3461 ext. 246

Fax: 418-923-3115

ROBIE PETAWABANO

Assistant Recreation Coordinator

Phone: 418-923-3461 ext. 246 or 317

NOTES: Prize money may vary depending on the number of registrations.



# The Twilight Zone

## Your Horoscope by Thelma & Louise

**Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18)** If you want it, you got it! You've been admiring someone from afar and if you want a full-blown relationship, take the plunge. Explore your passionate nature. Someone is trying to ask for more of you. If you can't give, you have to make that clear. It's a go-for-it kind a month for you. Just do it.

**Pisces (Feb 19-March 20)** Your relationship is coming to port. Time to move on and get on the next ship. The very depths of your soul cry out for change. Comb your hair, put on some clean undies and strut your stuff like you're 10 feet tall. Nothing can touch you. Your ship is coming in, we tell ya!

**Aries (March 21-April 19)** The obstacle in your current relationship is not as mysterious as you might think. It's the left-over feelings from a past relationship. Let go and meet your lover in the present. Experimentation in the bedroom may be the key. So get out the aluminum foil, duct tape and handcuffs. Send the kids (if any) to grandma's.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** Cupid's arrow is aimed at your forehead. You have been warned. It's been awhile hasn't it? Well, the dry season is over and get ready for action! Make your move. There will be plenty of opportunities. The problem was you've been looking for love in all the wrong places. Get

with it. Crash a party!

**Gemini (May 21-June 21)** Turn your bedroom into a fortress: Don't let 'em in or out! You are feeling wicked this month. Careful not to leave out your underwear when dressing. You will get the chance to meet an old flame. Take the walk down memory lane. Who knows what you'll find. Take care of yourself and you'll be able to handle anything.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22)** About those dumb problems and relationships you've been worrying about; what's the use of feeling guilty about what isn't your fault. Be happy for yourself. It's okay to be selfish once in awhile. Clear up a few complications with friends and you'll see great results.

**Leo (July 23-Aug 22)** Early in the month, you'll start to leave behind a part of the past you no longer need (so take out the trash!) You are angry at someone whose opinion is important to you. Get past these feelings and work things out. You need this person for what is about to take place in your life. Open up your heart. It is a wanted object!

**Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22)** The past will come back to haunt you. You will ask if things have changed. It is time to make that big decision that's been overtaking your thoughts the past few weeks. Relax, the worst is over and the best is yet to come. Things are looking up. Words of warning: Hell hath no fury like a

woman scorned!

**Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22)** This month could be a bit much to handle. Things could get emotional. You need to step back and take a good look around. Ask yourself is this where you want to be. Stop focusing on what they want and pay attention to what makes you happy. It's been a so-so summer, but the season of change is starting. Keep your chin up.

**Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21)** It's decision-making time. You know what you want and you want it now. L'amour is definitely in your path. It's been missing from your life. Take advantage and let the good times roll! Keep those Scorpio eyes peeled. Someone is trying to get your attention. Take notice, they are right under your nose.

**Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21)** It's a very tense month. If any difficulties surface now, it's because you've been putting them on the back burner. It's pay back time for you. Talk around you is cheap. So what? What do they know anyway? Ride out the storm and gradually some fun will kick in.

**Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19)** Why do you keep running from what you really want? The more you delay the more elusive your goals become. Wake up and smell the cold pizza. Your worries are unjustified. So tell your "point of amour" to justify your love! It could be a Cinderella ending ... It's up to you.

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## THE PREFERENCES OF THE NORTH...



## In the distance

In the distance I have seen the caribou  
Trodding upon the snowy river through  
Could not explain the feel why it always is,  
I'm dran to the sight as I stand my place in the wilderness

In the distance I have felt the wind  
Pacing, restless, waiting to ascend  
I have never figured out why  
The wind awakens my soul and dares me to fly.

In the distance I have touched the sky  
Loving the feel of it as I move on by  
Which makes me wonder how I can change my emotions  
Through the rhythm of the colours at each of the motions.

In the distance I have heard the evergreen  
Asking me why he had to die when he's always been  
As I gaze at the trees standing tall.  
I shed a tear as I see the next one fall

In the distance I have heard the waters splashing against the  
rocks

Remembering the times I stood by the docks  
To hear the sound of waves my whole being finds its release  
And I find myself in silent peace

In the distance I have walked on the Earth  
Stopping now and then to admire all its worth  
I smile, knowing I have found my place  
Beneath the trees that flow from the wind in simple grace.

Written by D.W.V.

***Épicerie Martineau envr.***

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## Friendship

There's someone out there who really loves me and cares about me. And she's really independent, cheerful and a wonderful person. Every time when I have a problem I go to her, she understands what I am going through in my life. She's the kind of person who you can laugh with, trust with. And every time when I think about her, I can hear the laughter, the joy and those wonderful times we use to have together. I just want to thank her and the advice you always gave me—it always works. And that person is my best friend, Misty Cheezo, who I really love her and cared every day in my life. I hope our friendship will never end even though we're miles away from each other.

Love always,  
Your best friend,  
Nian Moses (Mtl)

\*\*\*\*\*



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## 100-BIRTHS!!!

# 101-B-DAYS!!!

**Happy 7th birthday** to our beautiful daughter Tanita Lazarus on September 10. It seems like only yesterday that you were born. You are growing up so fast sweetie. Remember that we'll always love you. Love, mommy and daddy. Chis.

**Happy birthday to John Bluebo**  
on August 4. Sorry we're late but  
at least we didn't forget, as the  
saying goes better late than never.  
We hope your day was special  
because it only comes once a year.  
And remember Johnny B. Goode  
okay!?! From your sister and curly

**Happy birthday** to our big sister Tanita Lazarus on September 10: we may not always get along, sometimes we even like to tease you, bother you, get into your room and make a mess, write on your books and things but remember that we love. Love



# CLASSIFIEDS

Tyson and Trisha.

Happy birthday to our buddy Kevin Rodrigue on September 9. Hope you have a great day. From your pals Tyson and Alex.

Happy birthday to our cute cuz Darren Sam on September 11. We hope you get everything you wish for. Love, Jeannie, Cindy and Stella. P.S. Take it easy with the girls.

Your birthday is such a happy day. Especially because we can celebrate it together. You and I have made our marriage a wonderful partnership, sharing, love and respect. To my husband John Sam who's birthday is on August 14, 1997. And a happy anniversary on August 16, 1997. I love you very much. Love always, your wife Josephine Sam (Chis.)

A birthday greeting to my big brother Dwayne W. Salt who will be celebrating his birthday on August 23. have fun on your special day! With love, Paula M. salt.

We would like to wish our son Dwayne W. Salt a very happy birthday. he will be 7 on August 31st. Words cannot express how much you mean to us. We are proud of you son! All our love, mom and dad. Gloria and Paul

salt.

Happy birthday to Gloria Salt who will be celebrating her birthday on August 23. Wishing you joy and happiness ion. We love you very much. Love and prayers, mom Ruby Wischee, Samson Henry and Cynthia.

We would like to wish a special person in our lives, my husband and father a happy birthday and many more to come on August 23rd. Love, Harriet and your daughters.

Wishing special birthday greetings to a very special husband and father Henry Cooper in Oj who will be celebrating his day on August 19. The only word that comes into our minds is love and we want you to know how much we love you. May your day be as special as you are and take a break only for the day. God bless you. Love and prayers, your wife and children.

Belated birthday greetings to Jackie Quinn (July 13), Jon Henry Mianscum and Natasha Louttit (July 03) who all turned eighteen this year. Someday you will have to organize a reunion!

I would like to say happy belated birthday to my sister Winnie Gunner on August 4, 1997.

wishing you many more birthday and we love you with all our hearts. Love always, sister Diana and your nephew Nicholas Trapper. Take care Winnie.

Happy birthday to our mom Yvette Pepabano on August 1st, 1997. Happy birthday mom, we will always love you. Take care. Love, Corrina, Matthew, Nathan and Terrible Jean Paul. xoxoxoxo. P.S. Have fun on your birthday.

Happy 1st birthday to my son Nicholas Trapper on August 8, 1997. May your day be as special as you are and many more to come. Love always, mom Diana L. trapper.

Happy birthday to my sister Clara G. on August 5 and to my brother Alain on August 10. I love you and take care. Don't drink on your birthday you two. Love always, Mary Ann Gull. xoxoxoxoxoxo

Happy birthday to my special sisier Mindy Georgekish on August 6. Thank you for being there for me when I needed a friend. You were always there for me. You're such a special and caring sister. Hope your dreams and wishes come true. Once again happy birthday. From your sister Beverly (Wask.)

Happy 25th birthday to my mom Linda S. Trapper on August 9,

1997. Many more to come. From Lindy, Leonda and of course your baby Leona.

Happy 18th birthday to Mindy Georgekish on August 6. We hope you'll have a great one this year and don't party too much. From Beverly, Bradley, Sherry, Wendy and Kelly (Wask.)

Happy 19th birthday to a very special person Joshua Rabbitskin on August 14th. I wish you all the bets. the greatest gift I can give you is my love, a love that remains in my heart forever. P.S. Don't party too much. Love always, U Know me.

A special wish going out to a special little cute boy who celebrated his first birthday on August 8, 1997. This birthday wish is going out to Nicholas Trapper. Almost on Auntie's birthday. Love always, Jennifer W. (Mist.)

Happy birthday to my auntie Winnie (the Pooh) T. Gunner on August 4 and also to my tall auntie Lynda Trapper on August 9, 1997. Happy birthday to you both. I love you so much. Love always, Boodoo. xoxoxoxoxoxo

## 102-WEDDINS"!!!

This one is for my sister Sarah Rabbitskin and soon to be my

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## CLASSIFIEDS

brother in law Trevor Jimiken. We wanted to wish you the best on your upcoming wedding on September 20, 1997. Felicitation. Love always, Randy, Valerie and Tiffany Gunner.

**Congratulations to my brother Brian Ottereyes and Charlene on their wedding day on August 16, 1997. It's about time you two get married. Wishing you all the best. Love always, your sister Josephine and John Sam. Chis.**

**Congratulations to Martin Pepabano and Lucie McKenzie on their upcoming wedding on August 22, 1997 in Chisasibi. It's about time you two got married. Wishing you all the best. Josephine and John Sam.**

**Errol and Rita.** Son, all our lives we wondered what the woman you'd marry would be like. We are proud to say that Rita is a beautiful and perfect choice. Congratulations on your wedding (July 25th). We love you both and may God bless you both with many, many children! Grandma needs more grandchildren! Henry and Bella Mianscum.

**Irene and Chris Quinn, Angela and KC Macleod. Congratulations on your weddings! You were both such beautiful brides and the weddings were wonderful and lots of fun! May all of you have good health, wealth, children and many years to enjoy together! Henry, Bella and family.**

I would like to congratulate mon frere George Moar and Ethel and to Jerry Moar and Wendy who are getting married on August 22, 1997. Wish you all the happiness!! All my love, Angela and Sheena.

**Congratulations** to our two sons on their marriage on the 22nd of August, 1997. George Moar and Ethel, Jerry Moar and Wendy. May your happiness and love continue to grow for each other throughout the coming years. God bless you all! Love and prayers, mom and dad (Minnie and Bob Moar) Wask.

## 103-ANNIVERSARIES!

**Happy anniversary to my grandma and grandpa Rita and Allen who will be celebrating 17 years of marriage. You are the most wonderful grandparents anyone could ask for. With love, your one and only grandchild. Kyleen.**

**Happy 9th wedding anniversary**  
to Norman and Linda Matoush on  
July 8th. Keep the wedlock locked

forever. By someone who cares.

Happy anniversary to my caring and understanding parents Rita and Allen Macleod who will be celebrating their 17th anniversary on August 14. Wishing you both all the best! From your daughter Wachiskw.

I would like to wish my wife Yannick Wapachee on our first anniversary on July 20, 1997. I love you so much with all my heart. Don't give up when we serve the Lord because he's coming soon. Keep pressing on and seek his presence. Love always, your husband Freddie Wapachee. XXXXX.

**Happy anniversary to my husband Freddie Wapachee on July 20, 1997. I really love you so much honey with all my heart. Keep on serving the Lord and press on. Love always, your wife Yannick Wapachee.**

Happy 1st anniversary to our parents Freddie and Yannick Wapachee on July 20, 1997. We love you so much. Love always, your kids Elton John and Frederick Jordan Wapachee. xoxoxoxoxoxo.

Happy anniversary to my parents Alfred and Rosie on August 11, 1997 and my sister and my brother in law Helen and James on August 15, 1997. Many more years to come. Love always, Diana and Nicholas. happy anniversary to all.

Happy 16th wedding anniversary to our parents Donna and William Georgekish on August 14th. We thank you for the support, the love and care that you have shown us throughout the years. Let the love grow and enjoy you special day. With all our love from Mindy, Beverly, Bradley, Sherry, Wendy and Kelly (Wask.)

**Congratulations to these special people on their first anniversary on July, 1997. Redfern and Gertie Cheezo. Congratulations you two and God bless you. Love in friendship, Maryann Gull. And take care.**

[illegible]

**Happy 12th anniversary to my sister Linda and her husband Ernest Mayappo in Eastmain on August 16, 1997. By the way, we hope you have fun on your**

anniversary, Love always, your  
sister Josephine and John Sam  
(Chis.)

## 104-CLASS OF 97'

**Congratulations to Stephanie Wash, Catherine Snowboy, Beatrice, Napash, Bessie Napash, Stella Sam, Lauretta Neappo, Sandra Hester, Marjorie Benjamin, Linda Pash, Elaine Cookish, Shirley Snowboy and Harriet Shem on graduating from the Native Early Childhood Education Course. I just had to write the names to show everyone. It took a lot of sacrificing and hard work for all of yous and your families. I am sure everyone is proud. Again congratulations. Your friend Gerti.**

Four years ago on August 20, 1993 I said "I do" to a very special man in my life, Henry Cooper. Love is patient, love is kind, it does not envy, it does not boast. It is not proud, it is not rude. It is not self seeking, It is not easily angered. It does not record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects. always trusts, always hopes, always persevered. Love never fails. God's word is so true and I am so happy to be blessed with a man such as you who has never failed to love me, your children and most of all God. I love you more everyday and God truly bless you. Love and prayers, your wife Margo Mianscum  
C o o p e r .  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**Congratulations on your graduation Jon Henry Mianscum, Jackie Quinn, Twyla Linton and Natasha Louttit! We remember when you were all in grade one together in Mistissini and yet you have all graduated the same year in different places! We are so proud and delighted that you completed what you had worked so hard for! Best wishes to you all as you continue your education in college!**

We would like to congratulate two of this year's graduates, Sarah Blueboy and Mary J. salt from Waskaganish. Sorry we weren't there to share your joys. Anyway we wish you both the best with whatever future plans you may have. From Diane and Collin Blueboy.

## 300-HELLOS

I thought I'd write a short note. I heard about the choice you made in your life. I just wanted to say that I'm really glad for you. I know

you're pretty happy about it! I hope you keep going for him. I know he's a great guy and I know how much he loves you (us). Keep on going for him. From friend always,  
Doc.

Hi to the one I love so much  
Lucien Icebound! I want everyone  
to see that I deeply love and care  
for you from the bottom of my  
heart!! P.S. Take care of yourself.  
From me, secret admirer.

To ??????? ?????? Seasons  
change, days have come and gone  
since we first met and you're still  
by my side I didn't think I could  
love someone the way I love you.  
Even though I always tell you I love  
you...always. Love always, ??????  
?????? (in Wask.)

**Hello to my friend Sabrina Jolly**  
(Wask) Hope to see you soon! P.S.  
Don't party too much. From Jolene  
Georgekish, Mistissini. Call me at  
418.923.3600. See ya!

**Hello to John John Shecapio Blacksmith. We met during the softball tournament in OJ. Hope you still remember me. I would like to hear from you! From someone who lives in reception (Mist.)**

## 500-WANTED

**Studying in Ottawa/Hull this coming fall? Find a place yet? I am looking for a native female to share accommodations with. The furnished apartment is at Hull side. I will be at this number until the 23rd of August if I'm not at home. Try again later. 819.895.2601. Just say you're calling about the ad.**

**We are a native couple going to school in Hull. Him, university, her, college. Looking for live-in baby-sitter 600 a month. Expenses paid. If interested call Michelle or Henry collect at 819.775.2993 after 6 p.m.**

## COMING UP IN THE NATION

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# Mistissini Sports & Recreation

Cree Nation of Mistissini, Quebec

*On behalf of the Mistissini Sports & Recreation Department  
and the Organizing Committee,  
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## **Mistissini's 3rd Invitational Basketball Tournament October 16, 17, 18 & 19, 1997**

*We will be giving away over \$14,000.00 in prize  
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*It will be disbursed as follows:*

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Recreational "C"	\$400.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00
Women	\$400.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00
Mini Boy's (12 & under)	\$200.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Mini Girl's (12 & under)	\$200.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00

*\*All prize amounts are estimates. The amounts are subject to change depending  
on the number of teams that register. The first teams to register and pay the registration fees  
will be accepted. NO EXCEPTIONS. All other teams will be placed on stand-by.*

**\*\*ALL TEAMS MUST SEND THEIR INSCRIPTION FEE  
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**DEADLINE TO REGISTER: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1997**

For more information contact Jean-Baptiste Loon, Robie Petawabano  
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1995	Ford Taurus GL	Gray	40,385 km	Automatic	All Equipped	Special	\$ 13,500.00
1995	Ford Contour GL	Beige	35,647 km	Automatic	All Equipped	Special	\$ 14,000.00
1995	Ford Club Wagon	Green	58,000 km	Automatic	Air Conditioning	Special	\$ 17,500.00
1994	Ford Club Wagon	Red	61,000 km	Automatic	All Equipped	Special	\$ 16,500.00
1993	Ford Explorer	Green	73,000 km	Automatic	Air Conditioning	Special	\$ 16,500.00
1994	Chevrolet Beauville		139,000 km	Automatic	All Equipped	Special	\$ 14,995.00



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